

## CLAIMS

What is claimed as new and desired to be protected by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A method of recovering a corrupt computer system BIOS comprising the

5 steps of:

checking the validity of a computer system's BIOS upon startup;

continuing with a normal boot if said BIOS is valid;

if said BIOS is not valid:

initializing components of said computer system sufficient to establish a

10 communications connection with a recovery server;

locating said recovery server;

connecting to said recovery server and sending system information to said

recovery server;

downloading an uncorrupted BIOS from said recovery server;

15 programming said uncorrupted BIOS onto said computer system's BIOS

storage area; and

rebooting.

2. A method as in claim 1, wherein one of said components is a network card.

3. A method as in claim 2, wherein said computer system connects to said recovery server over a local area network.

4. A method as in claim 2, wherein said computer system connects to said recovery server over a wide area network.

5. A method as in claim 2, wherein said computer system connects to said recovery server over the internet.

6. A method as in claim 1, wherein one of said components is a modem.

7. A method as in claim 6, wherein said computer system connects to said recovery server over a direct dial connection.

8. A method as in claim 6, wherein said computer system connects to said recovery server through an internet service provider.

9. A method as in claim 6, wherein said computer system connects to said recovery server over the internet.

10. A method of recovering a corrupt computer system BIOS comprising the steps of:

receiving at a server a request for an uncorrupted BIOS transmitted by a computer system with a corrupted BIOS;

receiving system information from said computer system; and  
transmitting an uncorrupted BIOS to said computer system.

11. A method as in claim 10, wherein said server and said computer system are connected over a local area network.

5 12. A method as in claim 10, wherein said server and said computer system are connected over a wide area network.

13. A method as in claim 10, wherein said server and said computer system are connected over the internet.

14. A method as in claim 10, wherein said server and said computer system are connected through said computer system's modem.

15. A method for recovering a corrupt BIOS comprising the steps of:

checking the validity of a computer system's BIOS upon startup;

continuing with a normal boot if said BIOS is valid;

if said BIOS is not valid:

15 initializing components of said computer system sufficient to establish a

communications connection with a recovery server;

locating a recovery server;

connecting to said recovery server and sending system information to said  
recovery server;  
transmitting an uncorrupted BIOS and utility from said recovery  
server to said computer system;  
5 receiving said uncorrupted BIOS and utility at said computer system;  
programming said uncorrupted BIOS onto said computer system's BIOS  
storage area; and  
rebooting.

16. A method as in claim 15, wherein one of said components is a network card.

10 17. A method as in claim 16, wherein said server and said computer system are  
connected over a local area network.

18. A method as in claim 16, wherein said server and said computer system are  
connected over a wide area network.

15 19. A method as in claim 16, wherein said server and said computer system are  
connected over the internet.

20. A method as in claim 15, wherein one of said components is a modem.

21. A method as in claim 20, wherein said server and said computer system are connected over a direct dial connection.

22. A method as in claim 20, wherein said server and said computer system are connected over an internet service provider.

5 23. A method as in claim 20, wherein said server and said computer system are connected over the internet.

24. A system for recovering a corrupted computer system BIOS comprising:  
a computer system, said computer system comprising a processor, a BIOS recovery program, a BIOS storage area containing said BIOS, RAM, a first communications system and a chipset to control the flow of data between the processor, the motherboard bus and the RAM; and

a recovery server, comprising a processor, a storage medium containing an uncorrupted copy of said computer system's BIOS, and a second communications system;

wherein said computer system processor, in response to detecting a BIOS failure,  
15 executes said BIOS recovery program and initializes said computer system's chipset, RAM, and first communications system, locates said recovery server, connects to said recovery server through said first and second communications systems, sends system information to said recovery server, downloads from said recovery server an uncorrupted BIOS, stores said uncorrupted BIOS into said BIOS storage area and reboots.

25. A system as in claim 24, wherein said first and second communications system are network cards.

26. A system as in claim 25, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are connected over a local area network.

27. A system as in claim 25, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are connected over a wide area network.

28. A system as in claim 25, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are connected over the internet.

29. A system as in claim 24, wherein said first and second communications systems are modems.

30. A system as in claim 29, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are connected through an internet service provider.

31. A system as in claim 29, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are connected over the internet.

32. A system for recovering a corrupted computer system BIOS comprising:  
a computer system, said computer system comprising a processor, a BIOS recovery program, a BIOS storage area containing said BIOS, RAM, and a first communications

system and a chipset to control the flow of data between the processor, the motherboard bus and the RAM;

wherein said computer system's processor, in response to detecting a BIOS failure, executes said BIOS recovery program and initializes said computer system's chipset, RAM, and first communications system, locates a recovery server, connects to said recovery server through said first communications system, sends system information to said recovery server, downloads from said recovery server an uncorrupted BIOS, stores said uncorrupted BIOS into said BIOS storage area and reboots.

33. A system as in claim 32, wherein said first communications system is a network card.

34. A system as in claim 33, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are connected over a local area network.

35. A system as in claim 33, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are connected over a wide area network.

36. A system as in claim 33, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are connected over the internet.

37. A system as in claim 32, wherein said first communications system is a modem.

38. A system as in claim 37, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are connected over an internet service provider.

39. A system as in claim 37, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are connected over the internet.

5 40. A system for recovering a corrupted computer system BIOS comprising:  
a recovery server, said recovery server comprising a processor, a hard drive  
containing an uncorrupted copy of a computer system's BIOS, and a first communications  
system;

10 wherein said recovery server, in response to receiving a request transmitted by a  
computer system with a corrupted BIOS, connects to said computer system, receives system  
information from said computer system and transmits said uncorrupted BIOS to said  
computer system.

41. A system as in claim 40, wherein said first communications system is a  
network card.

15 42. A system as in claim 41, wherein said recovery server and said computer  
system are connected over a local area network.

43. A system as in claim 41, wherein said recovery server and said computer  
system are connected over a wide area network.

44. A system as in claim 41, wherein said recovery server and said computer system are connected over the internet.

45. A system as in claim 40, wherein said first communications system is a modem.

5 46. A system as in claim 45, wherein said recovery server and said computer system are connected through an internet service provider.

47. A system as in claim 45, wherein said recovery server and said computer system are connected over the internet.

48. A system for recovering a corrupted computer system BIOS comprising:  
10 a computer system, said computer system comprising components sufficient to enable recovery of an uncorrupted BIOS from a remote server;

wherein said computer system, in response to detecting a BIOS failure, utilizes said components to connect to a remote server, receives an uncorrupted BIOS from said remote server, stores said uncorrupted BIOS and reboots.